From: Daniel W. Headington

**To:** Microsoft ATR **Date:** 1/23/02 11:54am

**Subject:** Microsoft

Good Day. I do not have time to read or understand all the legal language in the files, but from what I understand and have been told about the case there will be no easy answer. The biggest question I have is what happen to the American Dream of being able to create something and have the sole rights to that product for a number of years if they wish. Microsoft has done some things wrong like making hardware companies only offer there product on there machines. I think that has been conceded. The part I don't like is the thought of tearing apart the most advanced and aggressive software company in the world. We have kids and "sick" individuals out there trying to tap into different systems and destroy or steal peoples information. We need to keep a company like Microsoft running at peak performance to help seal up these loopholes. I as a consumer do not mind paying for a superior product. The old saying usually holds true, "you get what you pay for". When I forget that I usually find out the hard way. In the case of Microsoft they are offering a superior product for a pretty pricey fee when bought individually. Microsoft has so many different areas that it is hard to point them all out. The main areas that I use is the operating system and office software. I have used the competition for the office software and they are still trying to catch up and are cheaper, but personally I would spend the money for the better product.

My only solution to offer is to fine them for their faults like the monopoly with the hardware manufacturers and monitor them so it will not happen again in the future. For the other areas of software like the internet software, if a company can offer it for free how is that bad for consumers. If you look at any other industry there are always options that companies offer for free to intice people to use their product. My only thing would be to set pricing controls on Microsoft explaining that if they offer it now for nothing and the competition does fall out then the software still will remain the same and only able to increase by the standard of inflation for that time period.

I will not feel sorry for the AOL of the world because you look how they got what they have and they did not invent or master their product line, they bought their way into the businesses. They have a monopoly on the cable industry along with there so called competitors but no one has pushed the envelope there. YOU ALSO HAVE TO REMEMBER THAT THE COMPUTER AND INTERNET ARE OPTIONS TO THE CONSUMER AND THE INTERNET WAS INTENDED TO BE FREE, BUT TAKE A

SERIOUS LOOK AT WHO REALLY IS TRYING TO CASH IN ON THE TECHNOLOGY WAVE. MICROSOFT WAS A STANDARD LONG BEFORE THIS CRAZE STARTED. AOL IS STILL TRYING TO BUY OR LOBBY THERE WAY IN.

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